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ABSTRACT

This book shows educators how to transform a school's culture so it welcomes learning. It offers important conditions in a school's culture that support the renewal of the school and those who live and work there. The book discusses what truly makes a difference for students in schools, asking questions to guide teachers in daily practice. It shows teachers and administrators how to build a community of learners and leaders; create conditions for learning; examine conditions and hidden capacities that can promote continuous learning and change; and inspire and challenge the notion of the schoolhouse and the people who work there. Throughout the book, several conditions for learning encourage high expectations, risk taking, playfulness, inventive irreverence, and a lifelong love of learning. Fifteen chapters discuss: (1) "Thinking Otherwise"; (2) "Culture in Question"; (3) "A Community of Learners"; (4) "Information Rich and Experience Poor"; (5) "Exploration"; (6) "Craft Knowledge"; (7) "Reflection"; (8) "Teacher Leadership"; (9) "Impediments and Opportunities"; (10) "Teachers and Principals"; (11) "On Becoming a Principal"; (12) "Conditions for Learning"; (13) "Some Questions"; (14) "Risk"; and (15) "Coming To a Vision." Two appendices offer a letter to parents and some thoughts on conditions for learning in any school setting. (SM)

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